
THE BOOK OF DANIEL | THE FUTURE OF THE GENTILE REIGN AND THE JEWISH REMNANT

LISTENER'S GUIDE | SESSION 15 | DANIEL 10:1-21 | DR. RANDY WHITE

THE TIMELINE OF THE BOOK

Chapter 1	Chapter 2	Chapter 3	Chapter 4	Chapter 7	Chapter 8	Chapter 5	Chapter 6 & 9	Chapters 10-12
Historical	Historical	Historical	Historical	Prophetic	Prophetic	Historical	6-Hist / 9 Proph	Historical
606BC	604BC	580BC	570BC	555BC	553BC	539BC	538BC	534BC

THE PATTERN OF DANIEL 9-10

<p style="text-align: center;">Chapter 9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The time 9:1-2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daniel's Humility 9:3-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Messenger 9:20-23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The prophecy 9:24-27 	<p style="text-align: center;">Chapter 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The time 10:1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daniel's Humility 10:2-3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Messenger 10:4-21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The prophecy 11:1-12:13
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THE PATTERN OF DANIEL 10:4-21

Passage	The Messenger	The Words	Their Effect
vv. 4-9	vv. 4-8	v. 9	v. 9
vv. 10-15	v. 10	vv. 11-14	v. 15
vv. 16-17	v. 16	vv. 16-17	v. 17
vv. 18-19	v. 18	v. 19	v. 19
vv. 20-21	v. 20	v. 21	<i>No effects listed</i>

- Vv 4-8: a certain man (with an angelic appearance)
- V 10: a hand and a voice
- V 16: one "like the similitude of the sons of men"
- V. 18, 20: "one like the appearance of a man" (possibly the same man as vv. 4-8).

THE INTRODUCTION AND THE FIRST MESSENGER | VV. 1-9

- Verse 1 - The Timing
 - Dan. 1:21 says that **Daniel continued until the first year of Cyrus**. This is not a conflict, since Dan. 1 simply says that Daniel served through the conclusion of the Babylonian era.
 - The remaining chapters (10-12) are included in this same vision, so this is the latest date for Daniel's work.
 - This is approx. 534 BC. (Bullinger uses a different reckoning and puts it at 424BC).
- vv. 2-3 – Daniel's Humility
 - Daniel is in a time of fasting and supplication for three weeks to come to an understanding of God's work with His people.
- vv. 4-8 – The messenger:
 - Verse 4 - **Hiddekel** - This is presumed to be the Tigris river. Also used in Genesis 2:14.
 - Verse 5 –
 - **a certain man** - This is the first (of five) messengers of 10:4-21.
 - **loins were girded** - Literally, "waist was tied" or the hip area in general.
 - Verse 6 –

- **His body** - Both the Hebrew wording of v. 5 and the description of v. 6 give indication that the **certain man** had a linen cloth with a golden belt around his waist, and an exposed upper body. **Beryl** is a translation in the KJV. Other translations use *chrysolite* (Darby), *a precious gem* (NLT), *topaz* (HCSB, NIV), *yellow jasper* (NET). The exact identity of this mineral is unknown.
- **appearance of lightning** - Sometimes translated **glittering** (Hab. 3:11).
- **polished brass** - More likely bronze rather than brass. Bronze is an alloy of copper and tin (or other metals), and brass an alloy of copper and zinc. Brass was first used about the time of Daniel's writing, but bronze would have been the more common reddish-brown metal.
- Verse 7 – **I Daniel alone** - The exclusive nature of prophetic oracles seems consistent in Scripture. Compare 2 Kings 6:17 and Acts 9:7.
- Verse 8 – **comeliness...corruption** –
 - In other places **comeliness** is translated as honor, glory, or majesty.
 - Likely Daniel (the royal official) is saying, "In comparison to this **certain man**, my glory was **corruption**."
 - **Corruption** is the noun form of the verb for *to destroy*. Thus, *my glory was destroyed in the presence of this man*.
- Verse 9 – **in a deep sleep** - That is, a trance. This **deep sleep** not coming upon him until Daniel **heard the voice of his words**. The events of 10:9-10 (sleep followed by a shaking) are also found in 8:18.

THE SECOND MESSENGER | VV. 10-15

- Verse 12 – **from the first day** - this **first day** is the first of the **three full weeks** of v. 2.
- Verse 13 –
 - **the prince of Persia**- The prince is the *sar*, from which the words Caesar and Tzar come from. In Daniel 10 it is used in 13, 20 and 21 and is used of a *spiritual* force, not a physical person. Thus, the **prince of the kingdom of Persia** is one of the invisible **rulers of the darkness of this world** (Eph 5:12), that is, a *fallen angel*.
 - **I remained there** - This is a difficult Hebrew phrase but either means "I left him there (Michael) with the
- Verse 14 - The vision is concerning the Jews and is about **many days** after the time of Daniel. As we shall learn, the vision will give detail of the fall of the Persian empire, the rise of the Greek empire, and the division of the Greek empire into four kingdoms, two of which will be prominent in relation to the land of Israel.

THE THIRD MESSENGER | VV. 16-17

- Verse 16 –
 - **One like the similitude...** - This is the third messenger of Daniel 10:4-21. Note that **sons of men** is not equivalent to the Son of Man, rather, simply one who is in appearance as a "regular man."
 - **touched my lips** - Unlike the arrival of the previous messengers, this one does not speak but opens Daniel's mouth so that he can speak.
- Verse 17 – **there remained no strength** - The effect of each message is the same: human weakness.

THE FOURTH AND FIFTH MESSENGER | VV. 18-21

- Verse 18 - This is the fourth messenger of Daniel 10:4-21. The fourth messenger is likely the same as the first (vv. 4-5), as seen in v. 20.
- Verse 20 - The fifth message of the chapter is spoken by the original messenger (v. 4).